

MARVEL

005

LIU
BROOKS
OBACK

STAR WARS™

HAN SOLO



HAN SOLO

Part V

It is a period of unrest. In a galaxy oppressed by the Empire's merciless cruelty, there is little hope for the future. Nonetheless, rebels have banded together to fight back against corruption.

Untrusting by nature, Han Solo has taken a step back from the rebel cause, returning his focus to what he does best—smuggling. However, when Princess Leia approaches him with an offer too good to refuse, Han finds himself racing the *Millennium Falcon* in one of the most notorious races in the galaxy, the Dragon Void, as a cover to find a suspected rebel traitor.

After a series of close run-ins with the Empire, all three Alliance informants—and potential suspects—are now aboard the *Falcon*. Now, Han must discover the identity of the spy while completing the race—but the traitor has already started killing....

MARJORIE LIU

Writer

MARK BROOKS

Artist

SONIA OBACK

Colors

KAMOME SHIRAHAMA

Cover Artist

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

Letterer

HEATHER ANTOS

Assistant Editor

JORDAN D. WHITE

Editor

**C.B.
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**AXEL
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For Lucasfilm:

Creative Director MICHAEL SIGLAIN

Senior Editor FRANK PARISI

Lucasfilm Story Group RAYNE ROBERTS, PABLO HIDALGO,

LELAND CHEE, MATT MARTIN



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THIS RACE
WILL GO DOWN
IN HISTORY AS THE
MOST UNPREDICTABLE--
AND THRILLING--
IN A THOUSAND
YEARS.

THE
DRAGON VOID
HAS ALWAYS HAD ITS
SHARE OF CONTROVERSY,
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME
THE EMPIRE HAS STEPPED
IN TO CONTROL THE
OUTCOME.

ALL RACERS
IN THE DRAGON
VOID RUN MUST SHUT
DOWN THEIR ENGINES
IMMEDIATELY--

NO DOUBT
THERE WILL BE
CONSEQUENCES,
FOR BOTH
SIDES.

YOU
PILOTS GOT
ANY WEAPONS
ON YOUR
SHIPS?

--AND
PREPARE TO BE
BOARDED.

NOT THAT
OUR RACERS
APPEAR TO
CARE.

YOU THINK
WE'RE SMUGGLERS,
SOLO? OF COURSE
WE DON'T HAVE
WEAPONS.

THE
CONSEQUENCES
OF DISOBEDIENCE
WILL BE
SEVERE.

BESIDES, WHO
IN THEIR RIGHT
MIND WOULD FIRE ON
AN IMPERIAL? THAT'S
A DEATH
SENTENCE.

THE MOST
ELITE PILOTS
IN THE GALAXY,
COWED BY
AUTHORITY?



NOT
PILOT SOLO,
APPARENTLY.

HE'S FIRED
ON THE IMPERIAL
VESSEL!



AARRRGH!



SOLO,
YOU
FOOL!

THIS IS TOO
MUCH. I SURRENDER.
I RACE ANOTHER DAY. MY
SPONSORS WILL BAIL ME OUT
OF WHATEVER TROUBLE THE
EMPIRE WANTS TO
ACCUSE ME OF.



**ZZT!
ZZT!**

HAN! WE'VE
GOT ANOTHER
PROBLEM.

YEAH? IF IT
DOESN'T INVOLVE
THE SHIP EXPLODING,
TAKE CARE OF IT
YOURSELVES.



THE ELOMIN
HAS BEEN
MURDERED.



WITH SHOTS
FIRED, A SHADOW
HAS FALLEN UPON THE
DRAGON VOID. A DANGEROUS
RACE, AT TIMES LETHAL--
BUT NEVER BEFORE
HAS IT BEEN SO
VIOLENT...

FOLLOW
ME,
PILOTS!



...OR
COOPERATIVE.
THIS IS A RACE
OF FIRSTS,
EVERYONE.

AND WE
HAVEN'T EVEN
REACHED THE
VOID
ITSELF.



WAIT...
THERE'S A STRANGE
ENERGY FIELD
EMANATING FROM
LOO RE ANNO'S
SHIP!

PILOTS,
PREPARE TO
ACT SWIFTLY.

DO NOT
ALLOW YOUR
INSTINCTS TO BE
PARALYZED BY
FEAR.

HAN,
WE NEED TO
CONTAIN--

UH--



IF...IF YOU'RE
SEEING THIS...
SOMETHING REMARKABLE HAS
JUST HAPPENED IN THIS RACE.
A CREATURE HAS APPEARED...
AND IT IS DEVOURING THE
IMPERIAL SHIPS!



...NOT
LOOKING, NOT
LOOKING, NOT
LOOKING...

LOO RE
ANNO.
WHAT WAS
THAT?

THERE ARE
CREATURES THAT LIVE
BETWEEN THE SEAMS OF
SPACE AND TIME, PILOT
SOLO. WE DO NOT SEE
THEM, AND THEY DO
NOT SEE US.

THAT
IS WHAT JUST
HAPPENED.

UNLESS
YOU OPEN A
VERY TEMPORARY
WINDOW.

I LIKE
YOUR STYLE,
LADY.

AND NOW
WE RACE.



WE'RE ALL
SPEECHLESS HERE
AT RACE
HEADQUARTERS.

WE DON'T
UNDERSTAND WHAT JUST
HAPPENED, BUT OUR PILOTS HAVE
MANAGED TO PUT SOME DISTANCE
BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE
EMPIRE, AND HAVE FLOWN INTO
THE JAWS OF THE VOID FOR THE
LAST, MOST DANGEROUS
TRIAL OF THE RACE.

WATCH THE
FUEL, CHEWIE. THIS
PART OF SPACE HAS A
STRANGE EFFECT ON
SHIPS. DRAINS
'EM FAST.

DON'T
WANT TO GET
STRANDED OUT
HERE.

GGAARACH!

DON'T REMIND
ME. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE
LET LEIA TALK ME INTO THIS.



CHEERS TO
HAN SOLO, WHO
COULDN'T FOLLOW A
SIMPLE ORDER BECAUSE
HIS EGO MATTERS
MORE THAN
OUR LIVES.



YOU'VE
DOOMED US ALL,
YOU KNOW. MAYBE
THE REBELLION,
TOO.



YOU'RE
ALL A BUNCH
OF KILLERS.

SO HE WAS
MURDERED.

GREAT.
JUST
GREAT.



DID YOU HEAR ME,
SOLO? I KNOW HOW
THE DRAGON VOID
WORKS.



WE CAN'T
JUMP TO HYPERSPACE
OUT HERE. OUR FUEL
WILL RUN OUT FASTER
THAN NORMAL.

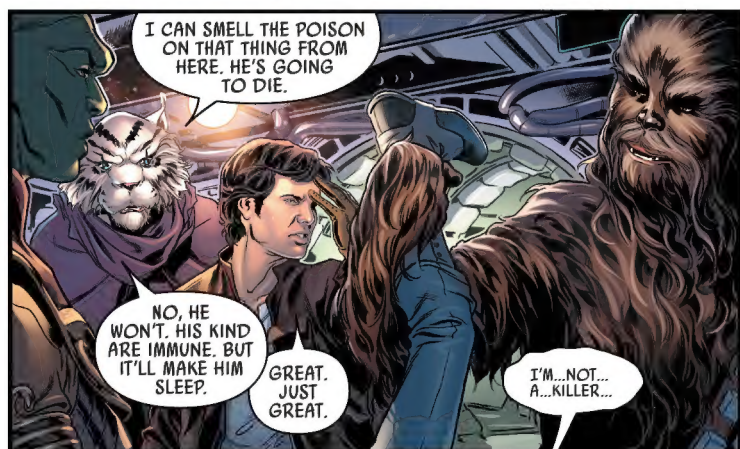


AND IF WE'RE
NOT THE FIRST SHIP
TO MAKE IT TO THE FINISH
LINE, WE'LL BE STRANDED
UNTIL SOMEONE COMES
TO FETCH US. AND THAT
SOMEONE WILL BE
THE EMPIRE.

THEY WILL
TORTURE
US ALL.









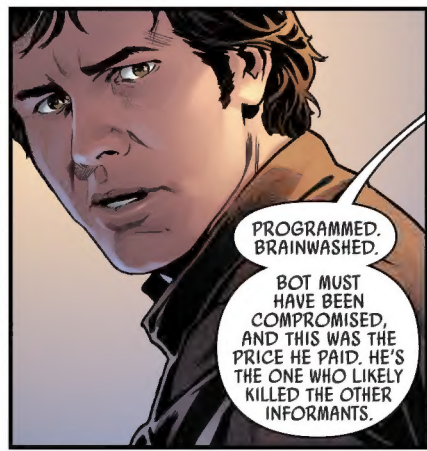
HARRGH?

YEAH, YEAH, I'M FINE.
THANKS, BUDDY.

I'M... NOT... A... KILLER...

WHY DOES HE KEEP SAYING THAT?

BOT DIDN'T BETRAY US BY CHOICE. HE WAS COMPELLED.



PROGRAMMED. BRAINWASHED.
BOT MUST HAVE BEEN COMPROMISED, AND THIS WAS THE PRICE HE PAID. HE'S THE ONE WHO LIKELY KILLED THE OTHER INFORMANTS.



YEAH? WELL, I'VE HAD ENOUGH. IF BOT WAKES UP, MAKE SURE HE CAN'T CAUSE ANY MORE TROUBLE.

KRRRAACH!



I KNOW. OUR PROBLEMS USED TO BE SO SIMPLE.

KAAAARRRRGH
GAAAARRHH
RRRRWWAAARG.

HUH. YOU WOULD LIKE HELPING THE REBELLION. YOU'RE WAY MORE NOBLE THAN ME, PAL.

I'M JUST A NOBODY SMUGGLER.



AND I LIKE IT... THAT... WAY...



UH...PILOT LOO RE ANNO, DO YOU COPY?

I DO, PILOT SOLO. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO AFTER THIS RACE IS OVER? WHAT DO YOU... I DUNNO...GO HOME TO?

MY SHIP IS MY HOME. THE STARS, MY HOME.



BUT AS FOR THE RACE, PILOT SOLO...

...I WILL EITHER WIN...

...OR I WILL DIE.



MY TIME IS DONE.

MY ENTIRE SPECIES...IS GONE. HERE, IN THIS GALAXY, I AM ALONE SAVE FOR MY WITNESSES, AND EVEN THEY DO NOT YET KNOW WHAT THEY WILL BECOME.



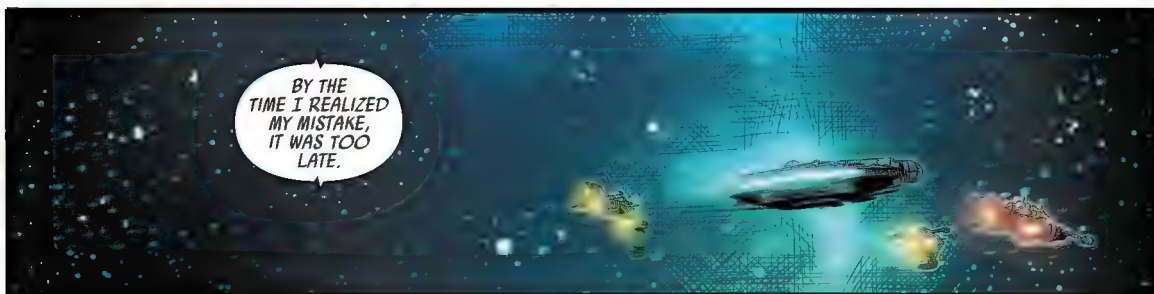
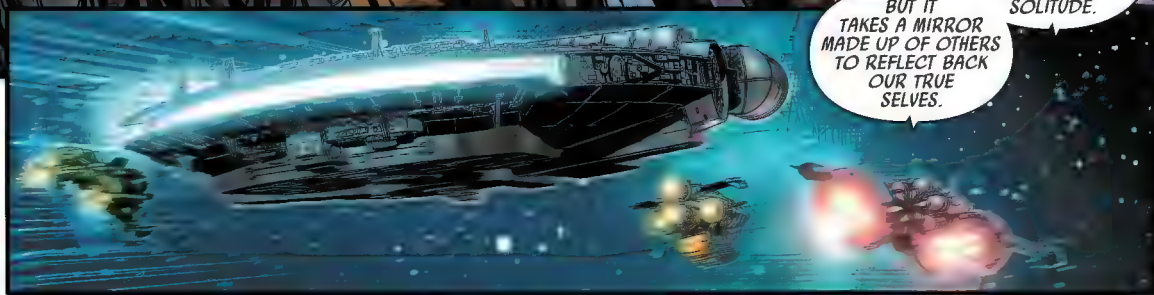
THIS IS MY TRUTH, PILOT SOLO...

I AM TIRED OF BEING ALONE.

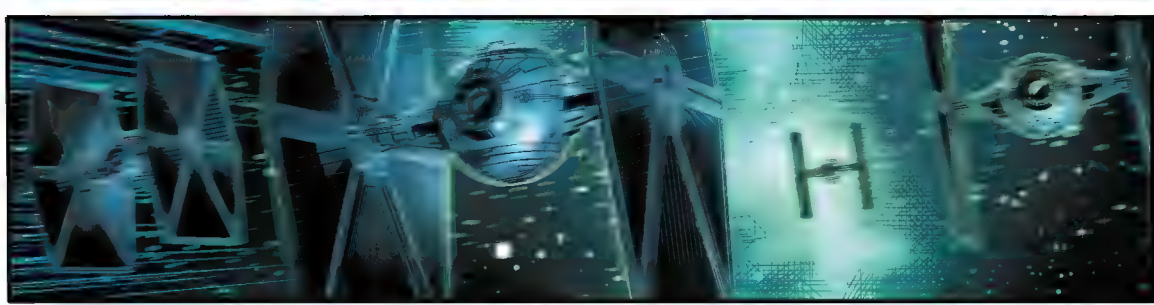
A LONG TIME AGO I CHOSE TO IGNORE THE LESSONS OF MY GRANDMOTHER. I REJECTED ALL OFFERS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY.

I THOUGHT I WAS BEING STRONG, THAT I COULD ONLY LEARN ABOUT MYSELF IN SOLITUDE.

BUT IT TAKES A MIRROR MADE UP OF OTHERS TO REFLECT BACK OUR TRUE SELVES.



BY THE TIME I REALIZED MY MISTAKE, IT WAS TOO LATE.





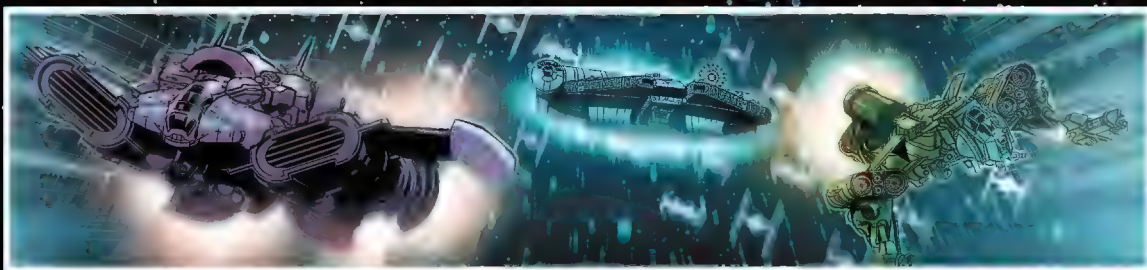
WE'VE COME TO THE EPIC END... THE RACERS ARE APPROACHING THE FINISH LINE.

AHEAD OF THEM IS A PIECE OF ANCIENT TECHNOLOGY THAT NO SCIENTIST HAS YET BEEN ABLE TO CRACK, A GATE THAT CREATES A WORMHOLE TO ONLY ONE DESTINATION... THE START OF THE RACE.

THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD, AND IT HAS ONLY ONE PURPOSE... AS FAR AS WE KNOW.

THE FIRST SHIP THROUGH THE GATE WINS THE PRIZE... AND THEIR FREEDOM FROM THE VOID... THE LOSERS WILL BE STRANDED...

BUT WILL THE EMPIRE DESTROY THESE RACERS BEFORE THEY HAVE A CHANCE TO PROVE THEMSELVES?



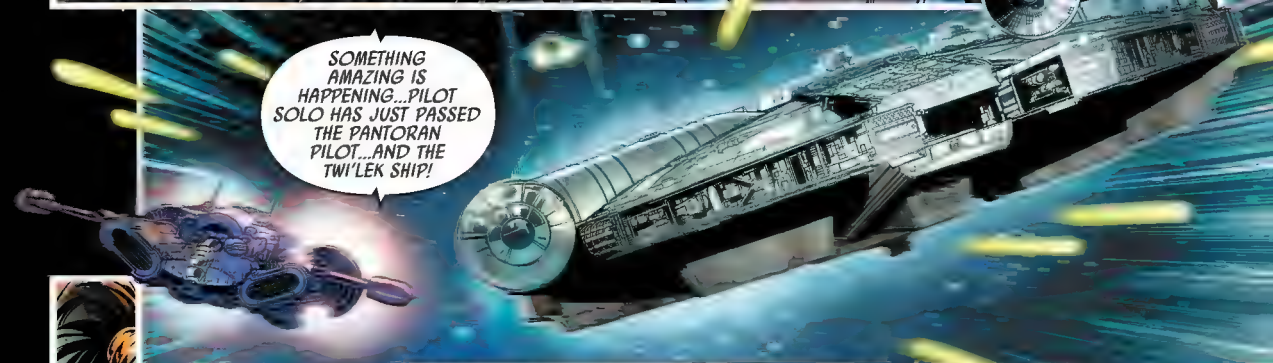


WHAT...
IMPOSSIBLE. THAT
PIECE OF JUNK
CAN'T BE FASTER
THAN MY SHIP.



COME ON,
BABY. YOU KNOW
YOU HAVE MORE
HEART THAN
THEM.

KRRRAUGH!



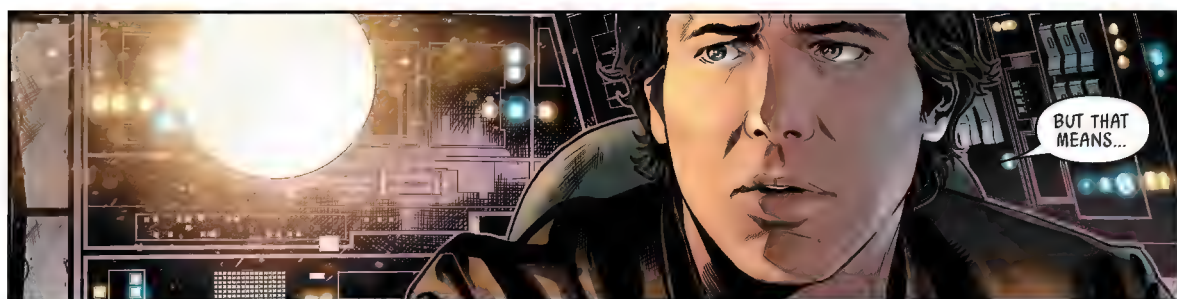
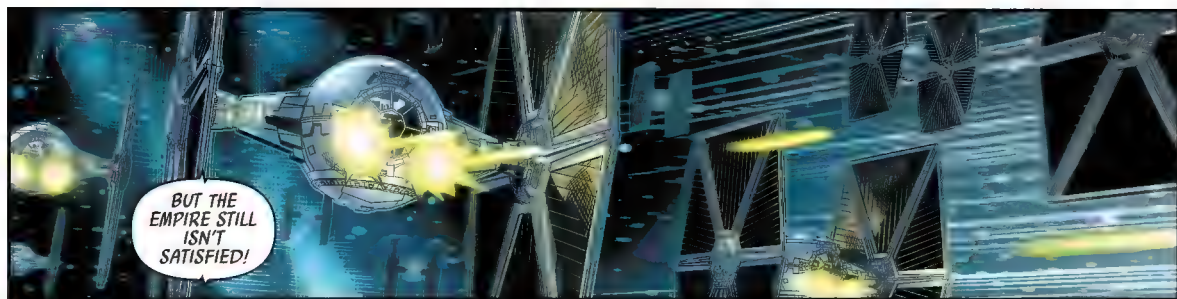
SOMETHING
AMAZING IS
HAPPENING...PILOT
SOLO HAS JUST PASSED
THE PANTORAN
PILOT...AND THE
TWI'LEK SHIP!

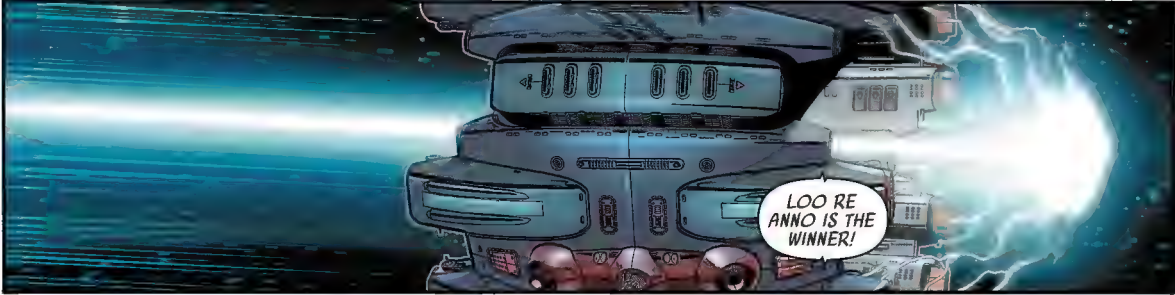
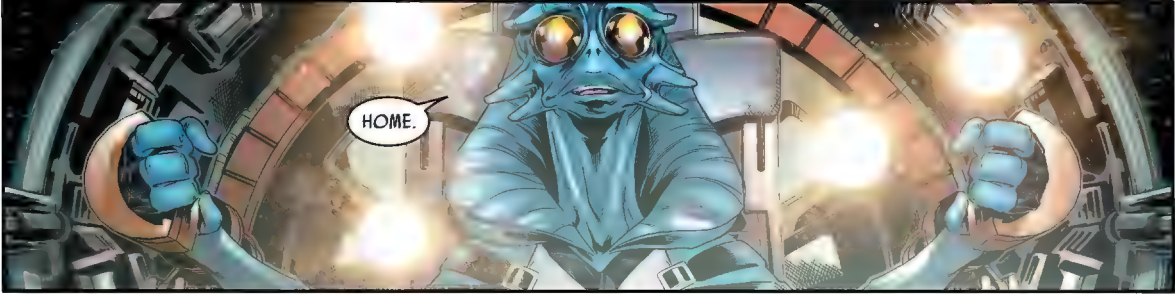
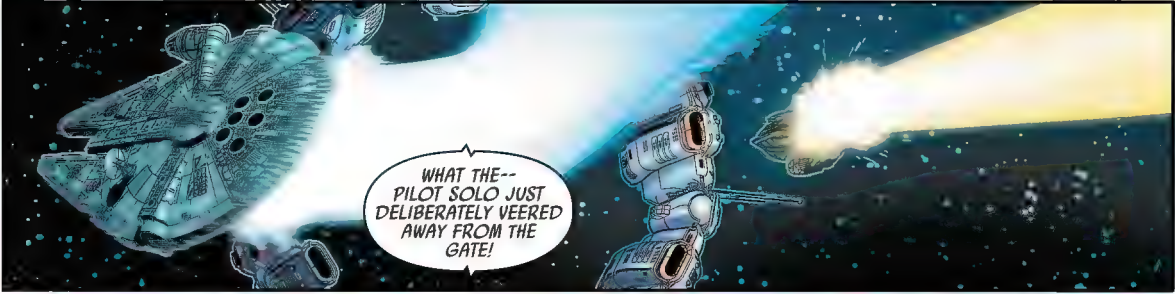


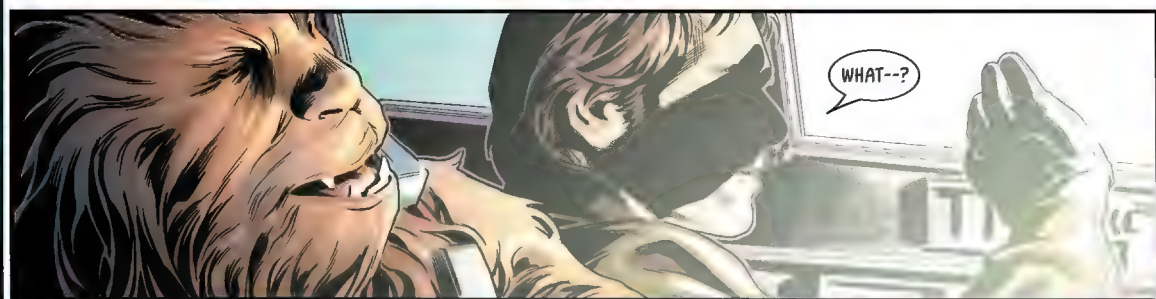
YOU AN'
ME...YOU AN'
ME...WE CAN
DO THIS...



IT'S A RACE
TO THE FINISH BETWEEN
THE LEGENDARY LOO RE
ANNO AND PILOT
SOLO!









THIS IS...
UNPRECEDENTED.
SHIPS ARE
EMERGING FROM
THE GATE...

AND
LEADING THEM
IS WHAT APPEARS
TO BE...LOO RE
ANNO.



PILOT
SOLO.

LOO RE
ANNO? WHAT--



MY PEOPLE...
YOU ARE SEEING
MY PEOPLE.

I THOUGHT
YOUR PEOPLE
WERE DEAD.

JUST VERY
FAR AWAY. BETWEEN
THE SEAMS OF TIME AND SPACE,
WITH ONLY ONE DOOR THAT
CAN REACH THEM...THE GATE AT
THE END OF THE RACE, A GATE
MY PEOPLE BUILT FOR
THEIR EXODUS.



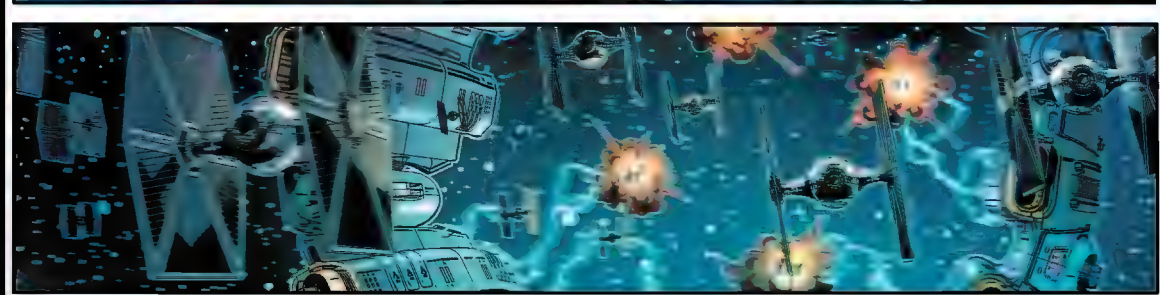
I HAVE
FINALLY BEEN
PERMITTED TO
REJOIN THEM.

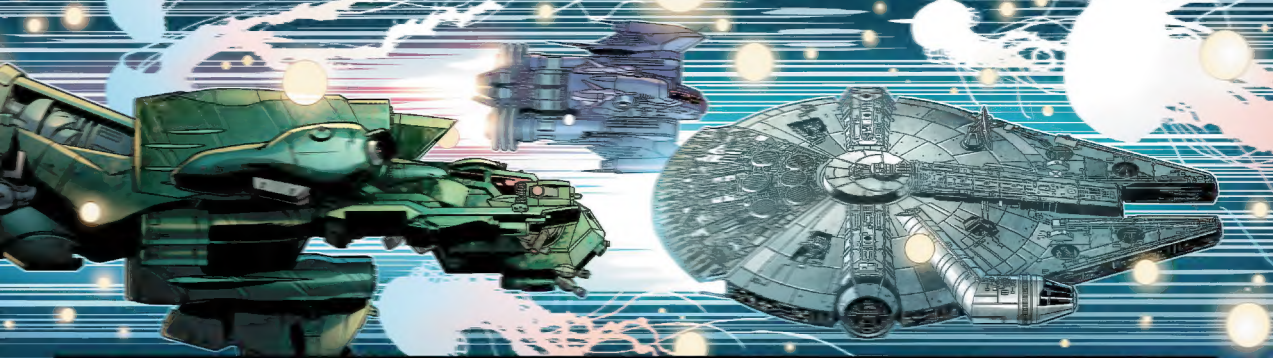
BECAUSE
OF YOU.

AND FOR
YOU, WE HAVE
COME INTO THIS
WORLD ONE LAST TIME.
BEFORE WE LEAVE
IT, FOREVER.



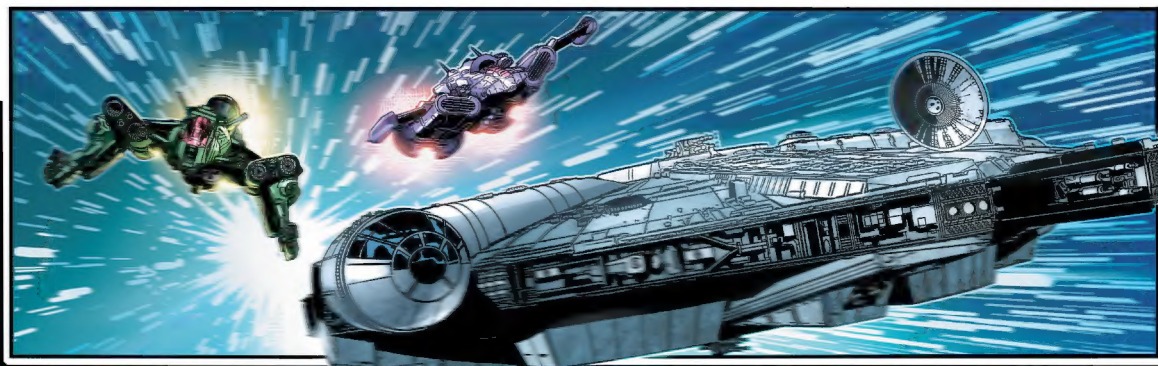
TAKE THIS
GIFT AND FLY,
PILOT SOLO. FLY
THROUGH THE
GATE. ALL
OF YOU.





HEY...
LOOKS LIKE
YOU'RE HOME,
TOO.

IF YOU SEE
LOO RE ANNO...
TELL HER THANK
YOU. FOR
EVERYTHING.



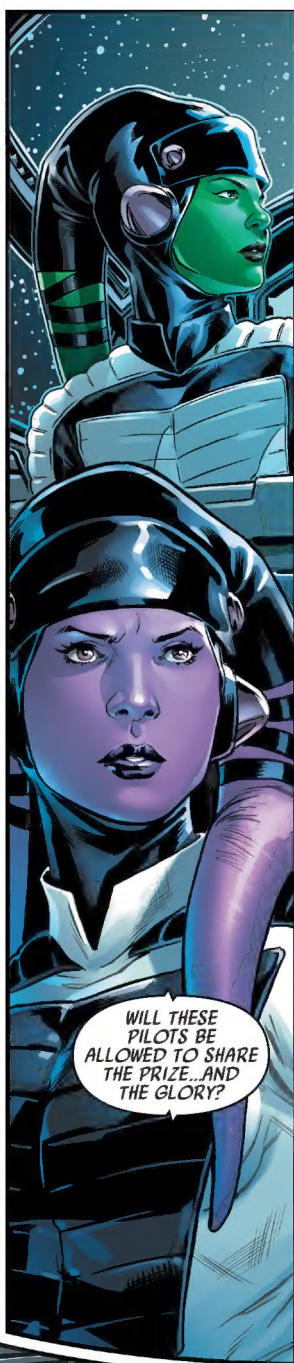
THE PILOTS
HAVE EMERGED
AT LAST--THOUGH WE
WEREN'T SURE WE'D EVER
SEE THEM AGAIN, GIVEN
WHAT JUST TOOK
PLACE.

AND
DEEPENING THE
MYSTERY? LOO RE ANNO
HAS NOT REAPPEARED
WITH THEM.

WHICH
CREATES ANOTHER
UNPRECEDENTED
SITUATION. BY DEFAULT
THESE PILOTS ARE NOW
THE WINNERS OF THE
DRAGON VOID
RUN.



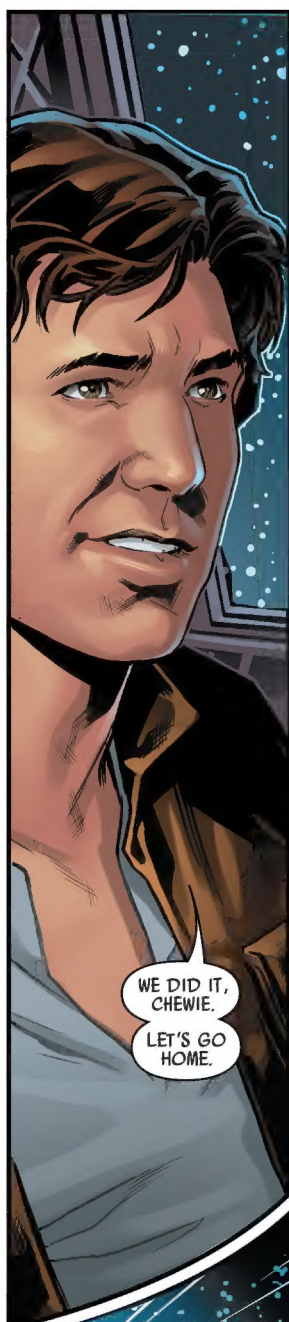
OR WILL
RACE OFFICIALS
CONCLUDE THAT THE
FINISH WAS TOO
CONTROVERSIAL?



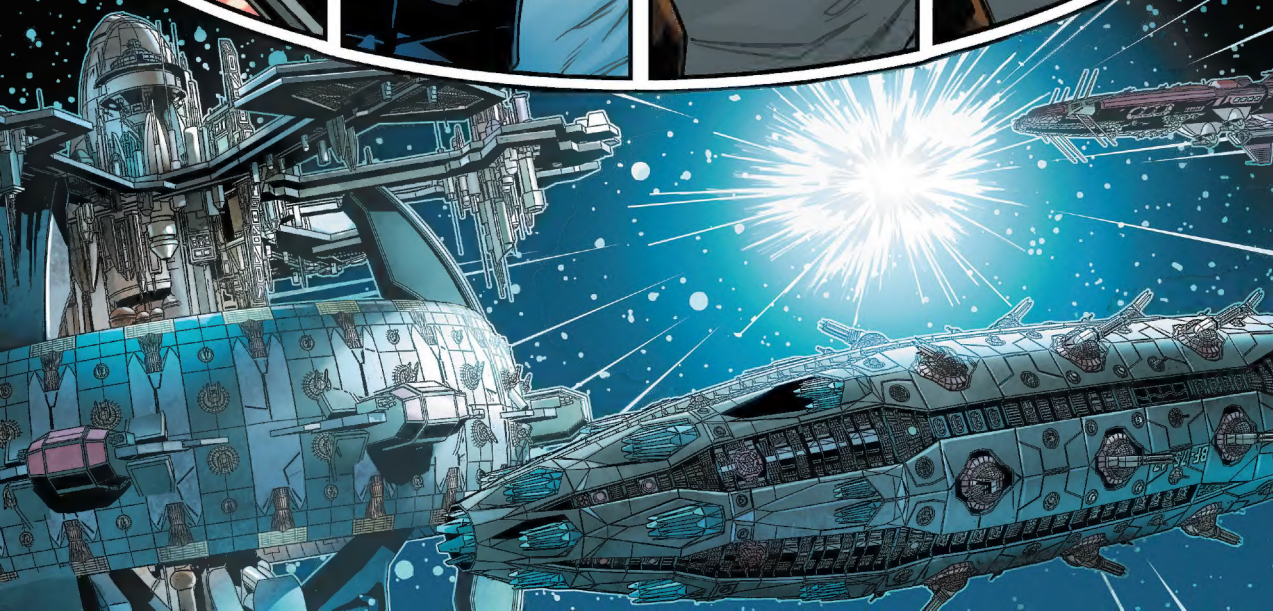
WILL THESE
PILOTS BE
ALLOWED TO SHARE
THE PRIZE...AND
THE GLORY?

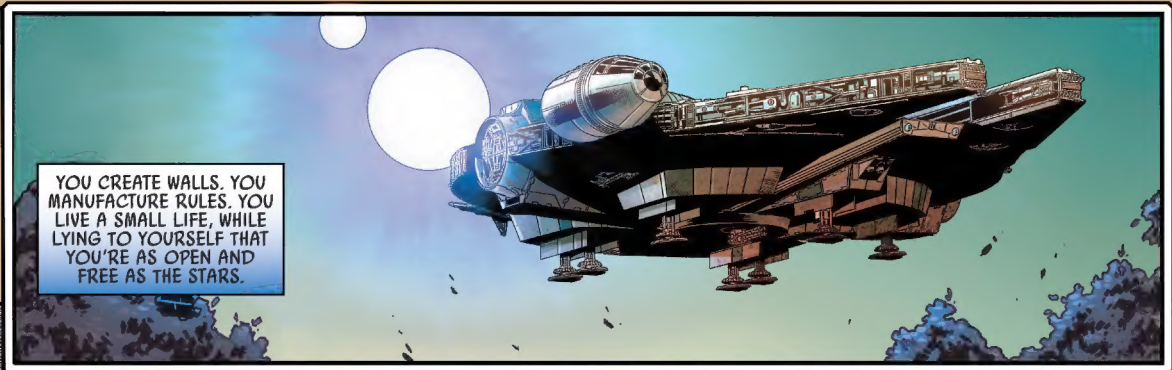


OR WILL
THEY BE FORCED
TO TEST THEIR METTLE
SOME OTHER DAY--AND
PROVE THEIR RIGHT TO
CALL THEMSELVES
CHAMPIONS OF
THE VOID?



WE DID IT,
CHEWIE.
LET'S GO
HOME.





YOU CREATE WALLS. YOU MANUFACTURE RULES. YOU LIVE A SMALL LIFE, WHILE LYING TO YOURSELF THAT YOU'RE AS OPEN AND FREE AS THE STARS.



YOU TELL YOURSELF THE REASON IS SURVIVAL. GOOD REASON, RIGHT?



U'IL, MY OLD FRIEND.

HERE IS THE MASTER LIST, LEIA. EVERY NAME YOU NEED TO KEEP THE REBELLION SAFE.

SO YOU HAD IT ALL ALONG? PRETENDING TO BE A BODYGUARD, EH?

BUT SOMETIMES SURVIVAL IS ABOUT TELLING YOURSELF LIES...

...UNTIL YOU CAN'T LIE ANYMORE.



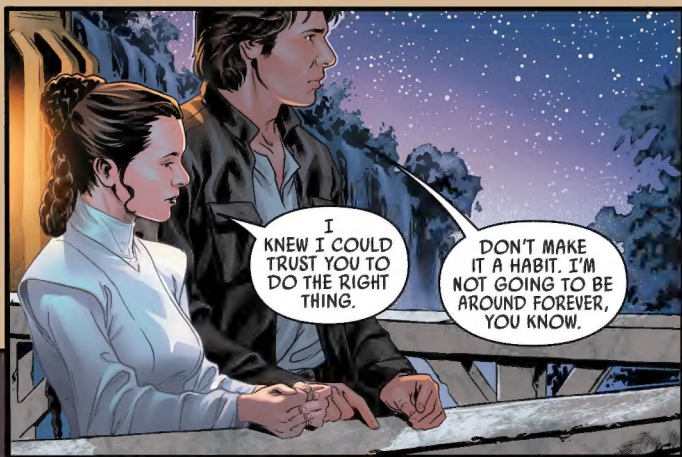
AND THEN YOU HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE ABOUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE...

...AND WHAT'S WORTH LIVING FOR.



LIES ARE EASIER, THAT'S FOR SURE.

YOU COULD HAVE RUINED EVERYTHING. ALL THOSE LIVES SACRIFICED...FOR NOTHING BUT A RACE.



The end.